



News Release

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EUREKA PARK SANITARY SEWER PROJECT ON TRACK FOR 2015

After decades of relying on individual home septic systems, residents in the Eureka Park neighborhood in southwestern Franklin County will soon be able to tie into a proper sanitary sewer system. The county Department of Sanitary Engineering is beginning a competitive bid process to install a new centralized sewer system in the area, with construction set to occur throughout much of 2014. Residents should be able to begin connecting to the system in 2015.

Franklin County provides water and wastewater services to unincorporated sections of the county. The county's Water Quality Partnership program has identified the Eureka Park area as in need of public sewers because of contamination of groundwater in the area due to failing home septic systems.

"Like anything, home septic systems have a life-span," said Franklin County Commissioner Marilyn Brown. "If you don't maintain or eventually replace them, they leak into the groundwater, which is not something any homeowner wants. This and other projects protect the environment and, most importantly, our residents."

The Eureka Park project will cost about \$1.49 million, with funding coming from grants and loans by the Ohio Public Works Commission and the Ohio Water Development Authority. Fourteen Water Quality Partnership initiatives have already been completed around the county, connecting more than 2,500 customers to the county system, and eliminating old, failing home septic systems.

"Replacing these old, leaking systems with modern sewer infrastructure creates good jobs, and can lift the neighborhood property values," said Commissioner Paula Brooks. "All Franklin County residents deserve to have safe, sanitary conditions in which to raise a family."

Once completed, approximately 68 Eureka Park customers are expected to be served by the new system along more than 5,600 feet of new pipe. Customers will need to pay for abatement of their old septic system, for permits, and other costs related to the connection. Financial assistance is available, however, through the County Department of Public Health.

"This project gets rid of almost 70 sources or potential sources of contamination and pollution," said Commissioner John O'Grady. "It's a collaborative effort between the county, the State Public Works Commission's Capital Infrastructure Program, and residents, of course. And it benefits not only local residents, but the entire county to clean up these sources of contamination."

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